

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend Claims 1-5 and 7-16 to read as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A printing apparatus for introducing a printing medium from a first printing medium holding region and discharging a the printing medium after being printed to a second printing medium holding region disposed above the first printing medium holding region, the first printing medium holding region and the second printing medium holding region being disposed on a first side of an apparatus body, comprising: ~~as seen from an apparatus body at an operating position, comprising~~

paper-feeding means for conveying the printing medium from the first printing medium holding ~~region;~~ region;

reversal means for reversing the conveying direction of the printing medium conveyed by ~~the said~~ paper-feeding means generally in the reverse ~~direction;~~ direction;

deflection means for deflecting ~~the conveying direction of~~ the printing medium reversed by ~~the said~~ reversal means such that the printing medium advances upward generally in the vertical direction ~~at the operating position;~~ in the vicinity of the first side of the apparatus body;

holding means for holding printing means ~~to perform a printing on the printing medium of which the conveying direction is deflected generally upwardly in the vertical direction;~~ such that the printing means is held at a position where the printing means overlies said reversal means; and

paper-discharging means for discharging the printing medium on which the record is printed by the printing means to the second printing medium holding region.

2. (Currently Amended) A printing apparatus for introducing a printing medium from a first printing medium holding region and discharging a the printing medium after being printed to a second printing medium holding region disposed below the first printing medium holding region, the first printing medium holding region and the second printing medium holding region being disposed on a first side of an apparatus body, comprising: ~~as seen from an apparatus body at an operating position;~~ comprising

paper-feeding means for conveying the printing medium from the first printing medium holding ~~region;~~ region;

deflection means for deflecting ~~the conveying direction of~~ the printing medium conveyed by ~~the~~ said paper-feeding means such that the printing medium advances downward generally in the vertical direction ~~at the operating position;~~ in the vicinity of the first side of the apparatus body;

holding means for holding printing ~~means to perform a printing on the printing medium of which the conveying direction is deflected generally downwardly in the vertical direction;~~ means;

reversal means for reversing the conveying direction of the printing medium on which ~~the record~~ an image has been printed ~~to the~~ in a direction toward a position at which the second printing medium holding region is located after being drawn generally in

the direction opposite to the position at which the second printing medium holding region is located, said holding means holding the printing means such that the printing means is held at a position where the printing means overlies said reversal means; and

paper-discharging means for discharging the printing ~~medium~~ medium, which ~~direction~~ has been deflected ~~to~~ in the direction toward the position at which the second printing medium holding region is located, into the second printing medium holding region.

3. (Currently Amended) A printing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the printing means is held within a minimum frame encircling ~~the~~ said reversal means, ~~the~~ said deflection means and ~~the~~ said paper-discharging means.

4. (Currently Amended) A printing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein all ~~the~~ constituent members except for the first printing medium holding region and the second printing medium holding region are disposed within the interior of an outer case member of a generally parallelepiped-shape, and the first printing medium holding region and the second printing medium holding region are provided on the same side of the outer case member.

5. (Currently Amended) A printing apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein a length of a shorter side of ~~the~~ a rectangular installation plane of the outer case member is shorter than a height of the outer case member.

6. (Original) A printing apparatus as claimed in claim 5, wherein the length of the shorter side of the rectangular installation plane of the outer case member is 100 mm or less, and the height of the outer case member is 400 mm or less.

7. (Currently Amended) A printing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the printing means is held generally above ~~the~~ said reversal means in the vertical direction ~~at the operating position~~, and in a space between the printing means and ~~the~~ said reversal means, ~~the~~ a conveying path for the printing medium exists is disposed.

8. (Currently Amended) A printing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ said reversal means is a reversal roller rotating about an axis thereof while being in tight contact on a surface thereof with the printing medium, whereby the printing medium is conveyed while being wrapped around 90 degrees or more of a surface of the reversal roller ~~at 90 degrees or more~~.

9. (Currently Amended) A printing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein either one of the first printing medium holding region or the second printing medium holding ~~region~~ region, disposed at a lower position when the printing apparatus is ~~used~~ used, is mounted ~~to~~ on the printing apparatus at a ~~larger~~ greater angle relative to the horizontal plane.

10. (Currently Amended) A printing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein a stack of ~~the~~ printing media in the first printing medium holding region is held at a vertical position by a flat presser member when the printing apparatus is used.

11. (Currently Amended) A printing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ said paper-discharging means discharges the printing medium above ~~the~~ a lower end of the second printing medium holding region when the printing apparatus is used.

12. (Currently Amended) A printing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the printing means ~~is~~ comprises a printing head for printing on the printing medium while moving in the horizontal direction during ~~the~~ use.

13. (Currently Amended) A printing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the printing means ~~is~~ comprises a printing head capable of ejecting ink to the printing medium.

14. (Currently Amended) An image-forming apparatus for printing on a printing medium by using an ink jet printing head, comprising
a paper-feeding tray disposed on a first side of a body of the image-forming apparatus while stacking the printing media therein at a slanted position so that a portion of ~~the~~ said tray closer to the apparatus body is relatively ~~lower;~~ lower;

a pickup roller for feeding the printing medium stacked in ~~the~~ said paper-feeding ~~tray;~~ tray;

a reversal path for reversing the printing medium fed by ~~the~~ said pickup roller by guiding the printing medium closer to a second side opposite to the first side, and then guiding the printing medium closer to the first ~~side;~~ side;

a conveying path for guiding the printing medium guided along ~~the~~ said reversal path generally upwardly in the vicinity ~~to~~ of the first side,

holding means for holding the ink jet printing head ~~above the~~ at a position ~~where the print head overlies said reversal path path;~~ so that the printing operation is carried out on a surface of the printing medium opposite to another surface opposite to the first side;

a paper-discharging tray disposed above ~~the~~ said paper-feeding tray on the first side, and capable of stacking ~~the printing media;~~ media; and

a discharging roller for discharging the printing medium on which ~~the~~ printing has been ~~done~~ effected by the ink jet printing head to ~~the~~ said paper-discharging tray.

15. (Currently Amended) An image-forming apparatus as claimed in claim 14, wherein an ink tank disposed above or below the ink jet printing head, for storing ink therein to be supplied to the ink jet printing head, is held by the ink jet printing head or ~~the~~ said holding means.

16. (Currently Amended) An image-forming apparatus as claimed in claim 14, wherein an openable member is provided on the second side to ~~be accessible~~ allow access to the ink jet printing head.